2. (Original) An element as claimed in claim 1, which has a flexural modulus of 5500 MPa or above.

3. (Original) An element as claimed in claim 1, which has a ratio of flexural modulus in Megapascals to density in kg/m^3 of at least 2.5:1.

4. (Original) An element as claimed in claim 3, wherein said ratio is at least 4.2:1.

5. (Original) An element as claimed in claim 1, which comprises from 30-90 wt% of thermoplastic polymer and 25-50 wt% of an elastic modulus increasing material.

6. (Original) An element as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is polyethylene, polypropylene or polyethylene terephthalate.

7. (Original) An element as claimed in claim 6, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is bi-axially oriented polypropylene.

8. (Previously Presented) An element as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic plastics material is a recycled material.

9. (Original) An element as claimed in claim 1 which contains glass fibres as an elastic modulus increasing material.

10. (Original) An element as claimed in claim 9, wherein the glass fibres have a length of at least 5 mm.

11. (Original) An element as claimed in claim 10, wherein the glass fibres have a length of 8-12 mm.

12. (Original) An element as claimed in claim 9 wherein the glass fibres are oriented in planes parallel to a load bearing surface thereof.

13. (Previously Presented) An element as claimed in claim 1, which has compounded with the thermoplastic plastics material at least one substance selected from fire retardants, UV stabilisers and/or friction increasers.

14. (Original) An element as claimed in claim 1 which has at least one substance selected from fire retardants, UV stabilisers and/or friction increasers present in an outer layer which has a thickness of up to 1 mm.

15. (Previously Presented) An element as claimed in claim 14, wherein the outer layer is formed from thermoplastics plastic material containing the at least one substance and co-extruded with the remainder of the material forming said element.

16. (Original) An element as claimed in claim 1, which has a co-extruded outer layer which has anti-slip character.

17. (Original) An element as claimed in claim 1 wherein the compounded thermoplastic plastics material contains a coupling agent and/or a nucleating agent in amounts of from 1 to 3 wt% and 0.1 to 2 wt% respectively.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of providing access by foot to a main location to which access is required, which comprises providing access by foot to a first location and locating between the first location and the main location, so as to have an unsupported span existing between support positions, a platform structure which resists static and/or dynamic loading, characterized in that the

platform structure is formed as a non-foamed thermoplastic plastics extrudate comprising a body which is compounded with chopped glass fibers so that the structure has a flexural modulus of at least 4000 MPa, the body having no exterior reinforcement layer [without external reinforcement].

19. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the compounded plastics extrudate has a flexural modulus of 5500 Mpa or above.

20. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the ratio of flexural modulus in Megapascals to density in kg/m^3 of plastics material of the compounded plastics material is at least 2.5:1.

21. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 20, wherein said ratio is at least 4.2:1.

22. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the compounded plastics extrudate comprises from 30-90 wt% of thermoplastic polymer and 25-50 wt% of an elastic modulus increasing material.

23. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is polyethylene, polypropylene or polyethylene terephthalate.

24. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is bi-axially oriented polypropylene.

25. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the thermoplastic plastics material is a recycled material.

26. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the compounded plastics extrudate contains glass fibres as an elastic modulus increasing material.

27. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the glass fibres have a length of at least 5mm.

28. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 27, wherein the glass fibres have a length of 8-12 mm.

29. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the glass fibres are oriented in planes parallel to a load bearing surface of the compounded plastics extrudate.

30. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the plastics extrudate has at least one substance selected from fire retardants, UV stabilisers and/or friction increasers compounded therein.

31. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the compounded plastics extrudate has at least one substance selected from fire retardants, UV stabilisers and/or friction increasers present in an outer layer of the structure which has a thickness of up to 1 mm.

32. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 31, wherein the outer layer is formed from thermoplastic plastics material containing the at least one substance and co-extruded with the remainder of the material forming said structure.

33. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the structure has a co-extruded outer layer which has anti-slip character.

34. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 18 wherein the compounded plastics extrudate contains a coupling agent and/or a nucleating agent in amounts of from 1 to 3 wt% and 0.1 to 2 wt% respectively.- -

44. (Currently Amended) A reinforced load bearing structural element comprising a body having no exterior reinforcement layer and [:] a hollow profile formed by extruding thermoplastic plastics material, wherein said reinforcement of the structural element is provided by compounding the thermoplastic plastics material with chopped glass fibers throughout the entire body so that the element has a flexural modulus of 4000 MPa or above. --